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**UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

*In re:*

*Applicant:* MEROOTH

*Serial No.:* 10/031,631

*Filed:* November 7, 2001

***A M E N D M E N T***

August 11, 2003

Hon. Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action of June 12,  
2003.

**MAIL STOP NON-FEE  
AMENDMENT**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service  
as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. **8/11/03**  
On **71**

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In the Office Action the Examiner objected to the drawings and rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. 112.

At the same time, the Examiner indicated that the claims were generally allowable over the art.

From the Office Action it can be seen that the Preliminary Amendment which was filed on February 11, 2002 was not considered. The Examiner indicated that the Amendment most probably was misplaced and he did not consider it. It was also suggested to refile the Preliminary Amendment. With the present communication applicants have filed a copy of the Preliminary Amendment for the Examiner's consideration. It is believed that the changes made in this Amendment will eliminate the Examiner's grounds for the formal rejections of claims under 35 U.S.C. 112.

At the same time, applicants have submitted a copy of the drawings with the proposed labeling of the corresponding drawings as required by the Examiner.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker  
Attorney for Applicants  
Reg. No. 27233